

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

The California Academy of Medicine held its regular meeting on January 29, 1912, in the Library of the San Francisco County Medical Society.

Scientific program was as follows:

1—Differentiation of Influenzal and Septicaemic Meningitis. Dr. J. G. Fitzgerald. Discussed by H. C. Moffitt, G. E. Ebright and J. G. Fitzgerald.

2—Osteoplastic Carcinoma. Dr. A. L. Fisher. Discussed by Dr. Rusk, Dr. Stillman, Dr. Dickson, Dr. Eloesser, Dr. Russ, Dr. Moffitt, Dr. Ryfkogel and Dr. Fisher.

3—Demonstration of Fibromata of the Cervix. Dr. H. J. Kreutzmann.

A. W. Hewlett, Rupert Blue, G. W. McCoy, Alonzo Taylor, W. E. Garry and Geo. Blumer were unanimously elected to honorary membership. Sterling Bunnell was unanimously elected to regular membership.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

COOPER COLLEGE SCIENCE CLUB.

The Cooper College Science Club held its regular monthly meeting on February 5, 1912, at which the following scientific program was given:

1—A Case of Cancer of the Uterus. Dr. F. P. Topping. Discussed by Dr. Chester J. Teass and Dr. F. P. Topping.

2—Grafts. Dr. Dudley Tait. Discussed by Dr. Leo Eloesser, Dr. H. B. Graham, Dr. G. H. Taubles, Dr. Dudley Tait.

3—Cutaneous Reactions. Dr. Ernest D. Chipman. The name of this society has been changed to that of the Cooper Clinical Society.

Refreshments were served at the close of the program.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

Dr. T. W. Huntington, President of the State Medical Society, was the guest of the San Diego County Medical Society at a dinner given January 18th at the Palace Cafe in San Diego. About fifty members were present. Dr. Huntington talked on the need of public lectures to the laity along preventive medical lines.

B. J. O'NEILL, Secretary.

SOLANO COUNTY.

Whereas, United States Senator Works of Los Angeles, Cal., has seen fit to air his personal and family troubles in the Senate chamber of the United States, in support of a cult of drugless healing and in depreciation of the medical profession at large and certain members thereof in particular whose names he refuses to make public, and

Whereas, The medical profession stands for the highest type of citizenship and scientific attainment; be it

Resolved, That the Solano County Medical Society does hereby protest against the use and prestige of the Senate of the United States of America for the furtherance of any cult or system of healing, drugless or otherwise, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this society and a copy sent to the California State Medical Journal.

A. V. DORAN, Secretary.

BOOK REVIEWS

Infections of the Hand. By Allen B. Kanavel; 8vo, linen, pp. 447 and xiii. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1912; price not stated.

A good book, containing thorough anatomical studies and sound clinical views and deductions. Of much practical import is the author's work on the anatomy of the tendon-sheaths, the bursae and the fascial spaces of the hand, with original plates

based on injections and X-Rays. Valuable, as giving a clear oversight, are his diagrams of the various paths by which infections may spread over the hand.

The book is evidently intended as a work of reference; a good index aids in the finding of the anatomy, pathology and treatment of the particular lesion to which reference is desired. The subject-matter is of such importance, however, and the author's studies so thorough, that with a little rearrangement of the contents the work might be remodeled from a reference-book for the excerpting of isolated chapters to one that would be of sustained interest from cover to cover. Ready study of the valuable plates of serial cross-sections of the hand is made impossible by the use of the antiquated letter-system for designating the various structures. Instead of printing in each plate full names with lines or arrows pointing to the parts designated, a system of letters (and, worst of all, cross-references) indicates the different details. Anatomical reading is difficult enough;—to have to cross and hunt and turn back again over several pages in order to ascertain that dots labeled EPTP, ESIP, etc., have nowhere an explanation of their mystic symbols, is indeed harrowing.

I hope that these deficiencies in the technical make-up of the book may be corrected in the many subsequent editions that it deserves; they do not at all deduct from its intrinsic value. Kanavel's work is worth buying and studying by every surgeon and by every general practitioner. L. E.

Scientific Feature of Modern Medicine. By Fred-eric S. Lee, Ph. D. Published by the Columbia University Press, New York, 1911.

This volume of 176 pages is a reproduction of eight lectures delivered by Prof. Lee in New York City. The lectures were delivered to what was at least in part, a lay audience and were illustrated by figures, charts, etc., that, the author states, have been found impracticable to reproduce. This rather detracts from the value of the book for the layman. Also the book should have a glossary.

It is unfortunate that chapters one and two should be the driest reading to the layman and the hardest for him to understand.

It is to be hoped, however, that the book will be read by those for whom it is intended for it is only by extension of knowledge of what medicine really is and what it can and cannot do, that quackery and charlatanism can be overcome, and though the author occasionally carries an idea a little far, still in the main the book is one that can be recommended by the profession to the layman who wishes to know something concerning scientific progress in medicine. A. L. F.

An Anatomical and Surgical Study of Fractures of the Lower End of the Humerus. By Astley Paston Cooper Ashhurst, A. B., M. D. 8vo. Linen. Pages 163. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1910. Price not stated.

A careful study with many interesting X-ray plates. Ashhurst treats all his patients by the hyperextension method; he has secured perfect results (i. e., no limitation of motion and normal carrying angle at the elbow) in 81% of his cases. This, when compared with the 18-25% of perfect cures attained by other surgeons, surely repays the care and detail with which he has studied these fractures. König and others have recently shown that the remote results of fractures at the elbow may not be as bad as would appear from most statistics. Reabsorption of bone and the adaption of structure to function make the remote prognosis of children's fractures more favorable than it might seem from the status immediately after discharge from treatment. However this may be, Ashhurst has succeeded in showing that the gloomy prognosis generally accorded fractures at the elbow,